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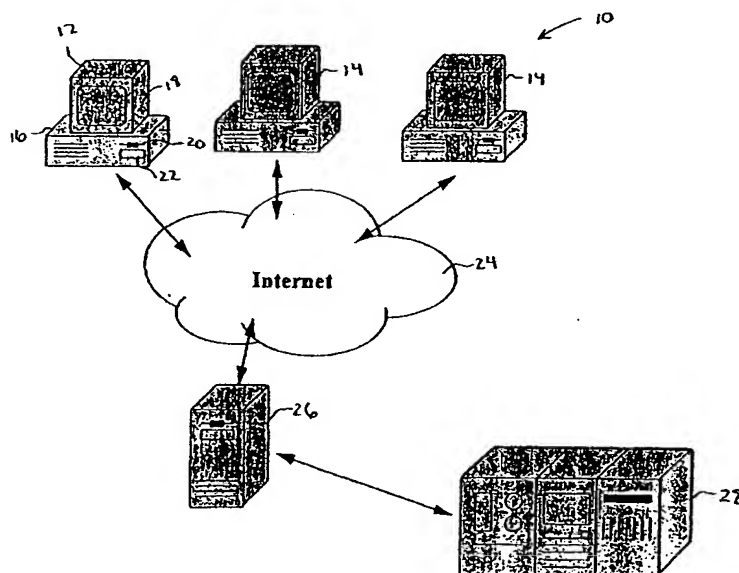
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09/265,147 9 March 1999 (09.03.1999) **US**
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- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

(54) Title: **SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR SHARED ELECTRONIC PURCHASING**



(57) Abstract: Systems and methods are provided for facilitating a purchase transaction. According to one method (see Fig. 1), multiple proposed contributions towards a purchase price of an item using multiple payment instruments are collected at a merchant server computer (26). The merchant server computer sends requests for authorization to charge the payment instruments. The merchant server computer collects the returned responses to the authorization requests. The merchant server computer then sends commands to charge all of the payment instruments only if the responses indicate an authorization to charge all of the payment instruments.

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US00/03526

<b>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</b> IPC(7) : G06F 17/60 US CL : 705/26 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
<b>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</b> Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 705/26  Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Please See Extra Sheet.				
<b>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</b>				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
X	US 5,794,219 A (BROWN) 11 August 1998, Abstract; col. 3, lines 45-67; col. 4, lines 1-22; col. 4, lines 51-61; col. 6, lines 17-51; col. 7, lines 6-59; col. 8, lines 20-59	1-35		
Y,P	US 6,023,686 A (BROWN) 08 February 2000, Abstract	1-35		
Y	US 5,826,244 A (HUBERMAN) 20 October 1998, Abstract	1-35		
Y,E	US 6,101,484 A (HALBERT et al.) 08 August 2000, Abstract	1-35		
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>*A* document member of the same patent family</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>*A* document member of the same patent family</p>
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>*A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>*E* earlier document published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>*L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>*O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>*P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>*T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>*X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>*Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>*A* document member of the same patent family</p>			
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230		Authorized officer VINCENT MILLER <i>James R. Matthews</i> Telephone No. (703) 305-3900		

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International application No.  
PCT/US00/03526

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

**DIALOG, STN**

search terms: network, Internet, buyer, seller, computer, server, contribution, price, co-payer, inventory, solicit, item  
or purchase or good, primary buyer, credit, purchase or buy, payment